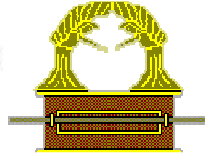




THE WORKMAN



James W. "Bill" Allen, Jr., Grand High Priest

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

May 2011

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CONTENTS

GHP MESSAGE	1
GRAND CHAPTER RESULTS	2
COMPTCHE OUTDOOR DEGREES	2
YORK RITE CRUISE	2
O MOTHER LODGE, WE'VE WANDERED FAR	3
GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS	3
THE CLOTHES LINE	3
ENCOMPASSER	4
PETITIONS	4
GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH CHAPTER	4
GRAND HIGH PRIEST ITENERARY	4
CONTACT INFORMATION	6

GHP MESSAGE

Companions:

Thank you, companions, for your trust and confidence by electing me to serve you as your Grand High Priest for Capitular Year 2011-2012. I look forward to meeting all of you sometime during the year at visitations, receptions, award ceremonies, and so forth. You can find a brief biography of me at our website, but having served the Navy/Marine Corps for over 35 years, I am most happy to address you on this Memorial Day.

A marvelous article appeared in the Wall Street Journal this past Saturday, May 28th, by Mark Helprin: "Memorial Day Beyond Stone and Steel." I can think of no better way to express my deep appreciation of our military than to point you to this article. It can be found at: www.wsj.com by doing a search on HELPRIN. He says at one point: "The

only just memorial to those who went forth and died for us, and who therefore question us eternally, cannot be of stone or steel or time set aside for speeches and picnics. We should offer instead a memorial, never ending, of probity and preparation, shared sacrifice, continuing resolve, and the clarity the nation once had in regard to how, where, when, and when not to go to war. This is the least we can do both for America and for the troops we dispatch into worlds of sorrow and death."

My hope is that I can serve this Grand Chapter as well this year as our troops, living and dead, have served our country, indeed the world, for the last few centuries. I have asked the editor of this newsletter to get it out by the last day of each month so that the dais officers in our local chapters will have it available to share at stated convocations. Best wishes for the remainder of 2010!

Remember to contribute to the DeBarrows Scholarship Fund.

Fraternally,
Bill Allen, Grand High Priest

Ps. From the editor: Bill and his lady Judy have been married for 35 years. They have one son and one daughter, and five grandchildren.

Bill was born on September 21, 1955 in Fort Monmouth, NJ. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1975 and served for nearly seven years. He then joined the Civil Service and spent 28

years supporting numerous Naval and Marine Corps aircraft avionics systems.

He earned his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from National University in San Diego, CA in 1990. He was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in 2000 in La Mesa Lodge No. 407, La Mesa, CA. He later affiliated with Consuelo Lodge No. 325 in Escondido, CA and served as Worshipful Master in 2004 and again as Junior Warden in 2009. He was presented with the Hiram Award in October 2010. He was elected to the Knights of the York Cross of Honor in 2008.

GRAND CHAPTER RESULTS

A number of Companions received awards at Grand Chapter this year. And one Lady received the **Sweetheart Award** – **Marianne Hammack**, wife, traveling companion, and navigator for our Junior Past Grand High Priest, Teddy G. Hammack. She was called to the podium for presentation by Smokey Ferguson, General Grand High Priest, who called the other recipients present forward to share in the limelight: His wife, Bobbie, also from Alabama; and Nancy Hardiman, recipient last year. He also presented the Distinguished Service Medal in Bronze to our Grand Lecturer, Frederic G. Kleyn, III, of San Diego Chapter No. 61.

Five companions received the **GHP Distinguished Service Medal**: **Miles W. Thompson** (36), **James L. Chapman** (107), **Leland G. Routt** (28), **Paul D. Erickson** (62), and **Roger W. Price** (109). The **High Priest of the Year** was awarded to **Lawrence R. "Gunny" Rodriguez** (62). Individual Department awards for HP went to **Thomas C. Chavez** (1), **Charles E. Bos** (107), **Fenton R. Mereness** (2) and **Geoffrey P. Holbrook** (109).

Four Secretaries were honored. **Gary L. Schlussler** (6) was awarded the Secretary of the Year for the State. **Harlan Mohn** (117) received the award for Department 1; **Gary E. Benns** (2) for Department 3; and **Kermit Rosenthal** (157) for Department 5.

The **Distinguished Membership Award** went to five companions: **Darrell J. Bunker** (127); **Bruce L. Ewald** (57); **Simon A. McIlroy** (57); **David E. Rush** (57); and **Ernesto C. Balba, Jr.** (80). **Membership Excellence Award** went to **Mike L. Szeplavi** (162)

and **Carlos H. Gonzalez** (57). The Chapter with the highest percentage increase in membership of 10.8% was **Azusa Chapter No. 80**. And the Chapter with the highest number of new members of 41 was **Signet Chapter no. 57**.

Winner this year of the **Russell D. Roberts Perpetual Trophy** is **James Michael "Guy" Chalmers**, Past High Priest of Petaluma Chapter No. 22.

One Resolution to amend the distribution of Life Membership Funds passed (2011-1) and one failed (2011-2). 2011-3 was withdrawn; and 2011-4 to amend the selection process for the Meritorious Service Award passed.

COMPTCHE OUTDOOR DEGREES

The **39th Annual Comptche** Outdoor Royal Arch Degrees are scheduled this year for June 25th at Tunzi Ranch. All four Degrees will be conferred on Saturday, with the Prologue beginning at 8:30 a.m. **The reservation deadline is Friday, June 20th**. You could make a vacation around this event. Self-contained RVs and tent campers are welcome to setup from June 20th through the 27th. There are no 120V hookups but there are chemical toilets in the meadow. There is a hot water shower in the restroom shack, as well as men's and women's bathrooms.

Fish Fry Friday night -- \$15.50
Breakfast Saturday morning -- \$10
Dues Registration -- \$12
Companions Lunch -- \$12.50
Tri-tip Barbeque Saturday Night -- \$20
Breakfast Sunday morning -- \$10

Children half-price; only companions pay the registration. Make checks payable to COMPTCHE OUTDOOR DEGREES, and send to Guy Chalmers, 50 Lohrrman Lane, Petaluma, CA 94952-3609.

YORK RITE COUNCIL CRUISE

Mark Harris is sponsoring another cruise as a Council Fund Raiser – a 5-day Bajo Meco Cruise, Nov 27th through Dec 2nd, 2011. Cabin prices range from \$394 to \$414 to \$524. Deposit of \$200 will lock in your price, with final payment due Sept 1st, 2011. Call Mark at 415-922-2916.

O, MOTHER LODGE, WE'VE WANDERED FAR

Here's another offering of Lawrence Greenleaf, Past Grand Master of Colorado, especially appropriate as we begin anew another York Rite year – Capitular, Cryptic, and Templar:

O, Mother Lodge, we've wandered far
And knocked at many a door,
Since first we wore thy Lambskin gift
And trod thy Checkered Floor.
Since first thy symbols met our gaze
And claimed our constant thought,
Till patient search at length revealed
The hidden truths they taught.
When heart at name of Brother thrilled,
And loyal but to thee,
We loved thy Square and Compass, and
Adored thy letter G.

The Chapter held recovered truths,
Why not possess the same?
That thought awoke a new desire
And fanned it into flame.
The honor sought at length was ours,
We read the Keystone's face
And saw the treasures long entombed
Brought from their hiding place.
Another tie had bound our heart,
Another name had we
O, Mother Lodge, we've wandered far
Yet still we cling to thee.

The Council next a votary claimed
We passed within its door.
The orders then of Knighthood took,
But still we craved for more.
The Scottish Rite's prolific brood
Rose temptingly to view,
We reveled in the mysteries
Expressed by 32.
At last the crowning honor came,
With figure 33.
O, Mother Lodge, we've wandered far,
Yet still we cling to thee.

O, Mother Lodge, we've wandered far,
From thy more simple ways
Mid scenes of splendid pageantry
With glories all ablaze.
Where dulcet strains fall on our ear

And pealing anthems ring,
And wisdom of the antique world
Was voiced by silvery tongue
And yet, withal, true Son of Light
With vision clear to see,
O, Mother Lodge, we've wandered far,
Yet still we cling to thee.

O, Mother Lodge, we've wandered far,
With longings vain possessed,
No higher jewel than thy Square
Is worn on Mason's Breast.
No higher badge than thy first gift,
The Lambskin pure and white,
Thy Pointed Star ascendant is
O'er every grade and rite.
Between thy Pillars all must pass,
Or else must cease to be.
O, Mother Lodge, we've wandered far,
Yet still we cling to thee.

GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

If you have the resources, please consider making a significant donation on behalf of our Masonic Youth. Send any excess cash (!) to the Grand Chapter Scholarship Program at 801 Elm Ave, Long Beach, CA, 90813.

Remember that all donations to the Scholarship Program are Tax Deductible, so keep this in mind as you plan your annual giving and when you pay your dues.

THE CLOTHES LINE

A line of Jackets for our York Rite bodies continues to be available at MP. ENTERPRISES. The price for red and blue is great -- \$75.00 plus tax and shipping, for sizes 34 to 49 in short, regular and tall; and \$87.00 plus tax and shipping for sizes 50 to 60, also in short, regular, and tall. Purple Jackets are little more expensive at \$95.00 for the smaller and \$107.00 for the larger. Also available are Men's and ladies' vests, tuxedos and shirts, pins, patches, and flags, and OES T-Shirts. Contact Patsy Baker Luy at her office: (510) 527-5728, or cell: (510) 502-3224; or email at maxluy@hotmail.com.

ENCOMPASSER

The **April 2011** edition of the Encompasser is now available on the website. Go to <http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org> and click on The Encompasser on the left hand toolbar. **You can help us control cost by letting us know you are willing to take the Encompasser by email only**

PETITIONS

New petitions and brochures about the Chapter are available on the website at:

<http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/royalarch/royalarch.htm>

Simply scroll down to the lower half of the page.

GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH CHAPTER

The Research Chapter hosts a website at: <http://www.goldenstatechapter.org/>, which is well worth your while accessing.

The Research Chapter has also prepared a publication of the Grand Orations and Vesper Services message given at the Grand Sessions in April 2010. Copies are available for a suggested \$5 donation by sending a request to the High Priest. A publication for the Orations of 2011 should be available during the summer, no later than our next meeting during the Annual Communication at Grand Lodge. Stay tuned for further details.

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M.:E.: Comp.: Philip A. Hardiman, Secretary

philipandnancy@aol.com

GRAND HIGH PRIEST ITENERARY

Jun-11		
Saturday, June 11	Channel Islands Reception	Ventura Masonic Center 482 E. Santa Clara Street Ventura, CA 93001
Saturday, June 18	Inland Empire 3-Way	2888 North Arrowhead Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92405
Monday, June 20	San Rafael/Marin	1010 Lootens Place San Rafael, CA 94901
Wednesday, June 22	San Jose 3-Way	2500 Masonic Drive San Jose, CA
Friday, June 24	Comptche Outdoor Degrees	Tunzi Ranch· Comptche, CA
Saturday, June 25	Comptche Outdoor Degrees	Tunzi Ranch· Comptche, CA
Sunday, June 26	Comptche Outdoor Degrees	Tunzi Ranch· Comptche, CA
Jul-11		
Friday, July 01	3-Way Reception	Signet Chapter No. 54 14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91405
Saturday, July 02	Ice Cream Social	859 Marsh Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Sunday, July 03	Newhall Parade	Newhall, CA
Monday, July 04	Newhall Parade	Newhall, CA
Friday, July 08	RCC SW Regional	Salt Lake City
Saturday, July 09		
Sunday, July 10		
Thursday, July 14	Paul McCleary 50 Year Pin	Escondido
Saturday, July 16 through Saturday July 23	Vacation	Top Secret
Aug-11		
Friday, August 05	Imperial Valley Commandery	115 E. Baroni Blvd Imperial, CA 92251

Saturday, August 06	Bay Area 3-Way Reception	2312 Alameda Avenue Alameda, CA 94501
Sunday, August 07	Palo Alto 3-Way Reception	Orange Park So. San Francisco
Thursday, August 11	Imperial Valley RAM/CM	115 E. Baroni Blvd Imperial, CA 92251
Saturday, August 13	SR All Masonic Picnic	Baker Field San Diego
Friday, August 19 through Thursday August 25	Supreme Council	Washington, DC
Thursday, August 25 through Thursday, September 01	General Grand Chapter	Raleigh, NC
Sep-11		
Thursday, September 01	Escondido Tyre RAM	1331 S. Escondido Blvd Escondido, CA 92025
Saturday, September 03	Mason of the Year (Grand Master) San Diego Scottish Rite	1895 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, California 92108-3683
Thursday, September 08 Friday, September 09 Saturday, September 10	Redding 3-Way	195 Masonic Avenue Redding, CA 96003
Wednesday, September 14	Masonic Information Night	1895 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, California 92108-3683
Thursday, September 15	Escondido Helix, CM	1331 S. Escondido Blvd Escondido, CA 92025
Saturday, September 17	Royal Arch Degrees	1331 S. Escondido Blvd Escondido, CA 92025
Wednesday, September 21	Cryptic Masons Degrees	1331 S. Escondido Blvd Escondido, CA 92025
Friday, September 23	Grand Lodge	San Francisco

Saturday, September 24		
Sunday, September 25 Monday, September 26		
Oct-11		
Friday, October 07	Imperial Valley Commandery	115 E. Baroni Blvd Imperial, CA 92251
Thursday, October 13	Imperial Valley RAM/CM	115 E. Baroni Blvd Imperial, CA 92251
Wednesday, October 19 Thursday, October 20 Friday, October 21 Saturday, October 22 Sunday, October 23	OES Grand Chapter	Fresno
Monday, October 24	Orange County Reception	303 W. Lincoln Avenue Anaheim, CA 92805
Nov-11		
Dec-11		
Friday, December 02	Imperial Valley Commandery	115 E. Baroni Blvd Imperial, CA 92251
Thursday, December 08	Imperial Valley RAM/CM	115 E. Baroni Blvd Imperial, CA 92251
Jan-12		
Feb-12		
Mar-12		
Apr-12		

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Website:

WWW.YORKRITEOFCALIFORNIA.ORG

**GOLDEN STATE CHAPTER OF RESEARCH
Website**

WWW.GOLDENSTATECHAPTER.ORG

May-12		
Saturday, May 19	Grand York Rite Sessions	Bakersfield
Sunday, May 20	Grand York Rite Sessions	Bakersfield
Monday, May 21	Grand York Rite Sessions - Council	Bakersfield
Tuesday, May 22	Grand York Rite Sessions - Commandery	Bakersfield
Wednesday, May 23	Grand York Rite Sessions - Chapter	Bakersfield

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